Learning About God From Amos

Greg Kline · Amos 1:1–2

INTRODUCTION

- What we need to know about the time at which Amos prophesied is that he was a relative contemporary of the prophet Isaiah.
- And so this morning I'd like to learn some things about God from the prophet Amos.
- And yet in this time of Jeroboam II, the people were at a relative pinnacle of the nation of Israel's history.

1 God Will Judge Us by His Standard

Amos 2:4; Acts 10:34–35; Amos 3:1–2

- Thus says the Lord, for three transgressions of Judah, and for four I will not revoke the punishment because they have rejected the law of the Lord and have not kept his statutes.
- What we see is that God is judging by his standard. And his standard is not a comparison to others.
- Truly I understand that God shows no partiality. But in every nation, anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.
- It didn't matter that other nations were worse. It mattered that God's people had rejected him.
- We can be and feel better than those around us. But we too will be judged.
- You only have I known of all the families of the earth. Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

2 God Will Keep His Promises

Amos 4:1–10; Deuteronomy 28:1–22

- They were bringing their sacrifices, but being religious wasn't enough.
- I gave you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and lack of bread in all your places. Yet you did not return to me, declares the Lord.
- But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God, or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.
- God had promised. And what God has said will come to pass.
- That's what we learn about God. He keeps his promises even though his people don't.
- What Amos teaches us about God is that it doesn't matter what we're not, it matters who we are.

3 Recognize That All Good Things Come From God

Amos 6:1–7; Deuteronomy 8:11–18

- Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria.
- Beware lest you say in your heart, my power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.
- If I don't truly realize that I'm nothing without God, that God is everything, I have missed the boat.
- We need to recognize that all good things come from God.

- It's not a problem to enjoy what God has blessed us with if we recognize that he has given it to us. But it is a problem when it supplants the word of God.

4 God Is Not Interested in Our Worship in Form

- God is not interested in our worship in form. We need to worship him in spirit and in truth.
- Why did he reject the sacrifices? Because they didn't mean it. It was just a form.
- You can't live one way outside of praising God and then come in and praise God and God accept that.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Will you come to God today? Will you trust in his grace and mercy and simply obey him? Will you be baptized, having all of your sins forgiven, accepting the grace of our Lord?**

MY NOTES